MIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gerd Hofmann et al. Art Unit : 2833

Serial No.: 10/518,907 Examiner: Felix O. Figueroa

Filed : October 21, 2005 Conf. No. : 5392 Title : BRANCHING DEVICE FOR AN ELECTRIC LINE

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO ACTION OF MAY 3, 2006

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION begin on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS begin on page 3 of this paper.